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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Madison *et al.*

Art Unit : 1652

Serial No. : 09/776,191

Examiner : Yong D. Pak

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Title : **NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES ENCODING TRANSMEMBRANE
SERINE PROTEASES, THE ENCODED PROTEINS AND METHODS
BASED THEREON**

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action, mailed April 21, 2006, entry of the following amendments and consideration of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450

Stephanie Seidman